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By Authority.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, 9TH JULY, 1866.

At four o'clock His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor came to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly; who being come, His Excellency was pleased to close the Session with the following

S P E E C H :

“ Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

“ Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

“ I have learnt with much satisfaction, that the opinion so strongly expressed by Her Majesty's Government, as to the expediency of a closer union between the British North American Provinces, has now received the concurrence of both Branches of the Provincial Legislature.

“ It is my intention, in accordance with the wishes of the House of Assembly, shortly to appoint Delegates who, in conjunction with Delegates from the other Provinces of British America, will arrange with Her Majesty's Government the details of an Act which, as requested by the Address of the Legislative Council to Her Majesty the Queen, adopted in April last, will be introduced into the Imperial Parliament for the purpose of effecting the desired Union.

“ In the Bill to which I have just assented, suspending in certain cases the operation of the Habeas Corpus Act, I recognize a proof of your watchful care for the tranquillity of the Province. The mischievous designs of the Fenian Conspirators have, it is true, been frustrated; but it will, I fear, be necessary for some time to come, to exercise a careful vigilance entirely to prevent the revival of their projects.

“ Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

“ I thank you for the readiness and unanimity with which you have provided for the exigencies of the Public Service.

“ Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

“ Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

“ The Queen has been graciously pleased to confide to me the discharge of important duties in another part of Her Majesty's Dominions; and in now taking leave of you, on your return to your respective Counties, I do so for the last time.

“ I cannot quit, without regret, a Province to which I have become sincerely attached, and, whilst I mark with deep interest the progress of the new nation of which New Brunswick will form no unimportant part, I shall ever watch with special concern the future fortunes of this portion of British America.

“ That it may continue to be happy and prosperous is my earnest prayer.”

G. E. FENETY, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.